

1 GEOFFREY L. HARRISON (*Pro Hac Vice*)
 2 SUSMAN GODFREY L.L.P.
 3 1000 Louisiana St., Suite 5100
 4 Houston, Texas 77002
 5 Telephone: (713) 651-9366
 6 Facsimile: (713) 654-6666
 7 Email: gharrison@susmangodfrey.com

NOTE CHANGES MADE BY COURT

5 GLENN BRIDGMAN (298143)
 6 SUSMAN GODFREY L.L.P.
 7 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 950
 8 Los Angeles, CA 90067
 9 Telephone: (310) 789-3100
 10 Facsimile: (310) 789-3150
 11 Email: gbridgman@susmangodfrey.com

12 *Attorneys for Plaintiff Winthrop Resources Corporation*

10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 11 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

13 WINTHROP RESOURCES
 14 CORPORATION,

15 Plaintiff

16 v.

17 COUNTY OF VENTURA,

18 Defendant.

Case No. 2:15-CV-08435-JAK(SSx)

Hon. John Kronstadt

STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

[Discovery Document: Referred to Magistrate Judge Suzanne H. Segal]

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Stipulated Protective Order

4189067V1/014941

1 1. INTRODUCTION

2 A. Purposes and Limitations

3 Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential,
4 proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public
5 disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may
6 be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to
7 enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this
8 Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to
9 discovery and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends
10 only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment
11 under the applicable legal principles. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth
12 in Section 12.3, below, that this Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them to
13 file confidential information under seal; Civil Local Rule 79-5 sets forth the
14 procedures that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a
15 party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal.

16 B. Good Cause Statement

17 The Court finds that good cause exists for issuance of this Protective Order
18 (“Order”) pursuant to Rule 26(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to
19 establish a procedure for use and/or disclosure of Confidential Information and to
20 govern the inadvertent production of Privileged Information, as those terms are
21 defined herein, and that entry of this Order is appropriate. In particular, the Court’s
22 finding of good cause is based on the following good cause statements submitted by
23 the parties:

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Winthrop's Good Cause Statement

Plaintiff Winthrop Resources Corporation ("Winthrop") anticipates that in the course of discovery, it may be required to produce documents that would reveal confidential and proprietary information regarding its business, including the manner in which it prices its finance leases, the strategy it employs in responding to Requests for Proposals (RFPs) from government entities, and its profit margins. Were such information to be revealed publically, it would give Winthrop's competitors an advantage in future pricing negotiations and RFP processes in which Winthrop is also involved.

Winthrop respectfully submits that there is good cause to permit Winthrop to designate as "CONFIDENTIAL" documents produced in the course of discovery and that relate to or would disclose Winthrop's proprietary business methods, including documents regarding Winthrop's pricing models, RFP strategy, and profit margins.

County's Good Cause Statement

The County of Ventura ("County") is not presently aware of relevant, non-privileged materials to be produced in this litigation that would require a "CONFIDENTIAL" designation by the County pursuant to this Order.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 Action: this pending federal lawsuit.

2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation of information or items under this Order.

2.3 "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items: information (regardless of how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in the Good Cause Statement.

2.4 Counsel: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as their support staff).

1 2.5 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or
2 items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as
3 “CONFIDENTIAL.”

4 2.6 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless
5 of the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,
6 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced
7 or generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

8 2.7 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter
9 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as
10 an expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.

11 2.8 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action.
12 House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside
13 counsel.

14 2.9 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or
15 other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

16 2.10 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a
17 party to this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action and
18 have appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm
19 which has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

20 2.11 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors,
21 employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their
22 support staffs).

23 2.12 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or
24 Discovery Material in this Action.

25 2.13 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation
26 support services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or
27 demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)
28 and their employees and subcontractors.

1 2.14 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is
2 designated as "CONFIDENTIAL."

3 2.15 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery
4 Material from a Producing Party.

5 3. SCOPE

6 The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only
7 Protected Material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or
8 extracted from Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or
9 compilations of Protected Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or
10 presentations by Parties or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material.

11 Any use of Protected Material at trial shall be governed by the orders of the
12 trial judge. This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material at trial

13 4. DURATION

14 Even after final disposition of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations
15 imposed by this Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees
16 otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs. ^{and consistent with L.R. 79-7} Final disposition shall be
17 deemed to be the later of (1) dismissal of all claims and defenses in this Action,
18 with or without prejudice; and (2) final judgment herein after the completion and
19 exhaustion of all appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews of this Action,
20 including the time limits for filing any motions or applications for extension of time
21 pursuant to applicable law.

22 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

23 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.

24 Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under
25 this Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that
26 qualifies under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for
27 protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written
28 communications that qualify so that other portions of the material, documents,

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1 items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept
2 unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order.

3 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations
4 that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper
5 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to
6 impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the
7 Designating Party to sanctions.

8 If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that information or items that it
9 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must
10 promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the inapplicable designation.

11 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in
12 this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise
13 stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection
14 under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or
15 produced.

16 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

17 (a) for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic documents,
18 but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that
19 the Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend "CONFIDENTIAL"
20 (hereinafter "CONFIDENTIAL legend"), to each page that contains protected
21 material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for
22 protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s)
23 (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

24 A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection
25 need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated
26 which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and
27 before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be
28 deemed "CONFIDENTIAL." After the inspecting Party has identified the

1 documents it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine
2 which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order. Then,
3 before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the
4 “CONFIDENTIAL legend” to each page that contains Protected Material. If only a
5 portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing
6 Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making
7 appropriate markings in the margins).

8 (b) for testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party identify the
9 Disclosure or Discovery Material on the record, before the close of the deposition
10 all protected testimony.

11 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary and for
12 any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the
13 exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the legend
14 “CONFIDENTIAL.” If only a portion or portions of the information warrants
15 protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the
16 protected portion(s).

17 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent
18 failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive
19 the Designating Party’s right to secure protection under this Order for such
20 material. Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make
21 reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the
22 provisions of this Order.

23 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

24 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a
25 designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court’s
26 Scheduling Order.

27 6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute
28 resolution process under Local Rule 37.1 *et seq.*

1 6.3 Burden. The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding
2 shall be on the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an
3 improper purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on
4 other parties) may expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the
5 Designating Party has waived or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all
6 parties shall continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to
7 which it is entitled under the Producing Party's designation until the Court rules on
8 the challenge.

9 7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

10 7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is
11 disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this
12 Action only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Such
13 Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the
14 conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a
15 Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL
16 DISPOSITION).

17 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a
18 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons
19 authorized under this Order.

20 7.2 Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items. Unless
21 otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a
22 Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated
23 "CONFIDENTIAL" only to:

24 (a) the Receiving Party's Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as well
25 as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably necessary
26 to disclose the information for this Action;

27 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of the
28 Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action;

1 (c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom
2 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the
3 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

4 (d) the court and its personnel;

5 (e) court reporters and their staff;

6 (f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional
7 Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have
8 signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

9 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
10 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

11 (h) during their depositions, witnesses ,and attorneys for witnesses, in the
12 Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing party
13 requests that the witness sign the form attached as Exhibit 1 hereto; and (2) they
14 will not be permitted to keep any confidential information unless they sign the
15 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise
16 agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed
17 deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may
18 be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone
19 except as permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order; and

20 (i) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel,
21 mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.

22 8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED
23 IN OTHER LITIGATION

24 If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation
25 that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as
26 “CONFIDENTIAL,” that Party must:

27 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification shall
28 include a copy of the subpoena or court order;

1 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to
2 issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena
3 or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include a copy of
4 this Stipulated Protective Order; and

5 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued
6 by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

7 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with
8 the subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in this
9 action as "CONFIDENTIAL" before a determination by the court from which the
10 subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party's
11 permission. The Designating Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking
12 protection in that court of its confidential material and nothing in these provisions
13 should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action
14 to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

15 9. A NON-PARTY'S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE
16 PRODUCED IN THIS LITIGATION

17 (a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a
18 Non-Party in this Action and designated as "CONFIDENTIAL." Such information
19 produced by Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected by the
20 remedies and relief provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions should be
21 construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

22 (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to
23 produce a Non-Party's confidential information in its possession, and the Party is
24 subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party's
25 confidential information, then the Party shall:

26 (1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non Party
27 that some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality
28 agreement with a Non-Party;

1 (2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Stipulated
2 Protective Order in this Action, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably
3 specific description of the information requested; and

4 (3) make the information requested available for inspection by the
5 Non-Party, if requested.

6 (c) If the Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court within 14
7 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving Party
8 may produce the Non-Party's confidential information responsive to the discovery
9 request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the Receiving Party shall
10 not produce any information in its possession or control that is subject to the
11 confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination by the court.
12 Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and
13 expense of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

14 10. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

15 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed
16 Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this
17 Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in
18 writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best
19 efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the
20 person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of
21 this Order, and (d) request such person or persons to execute the "Acknowledgment
22 and Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

23 11. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE
24 PROTECTED MATERIAL

25 Despite all reasonable precautions, the Parties recognize that inadvertent or
26 mistaken disclosures of Privileged Information may still be made. If Documents
27 containing Privileged Information are inadvertently or mistakenly disclosed, the
28 parties agree that the following procedure shall govern:

1 a. The Producing Party shall promptly advise the Receiving Party
2 of the disclosure and shall recall any such inadvertently disclosed Documents by
3 making a request of the receiving party for their return.

4 b. If a Receiving Party becomes aware that a Producing Party
5 inadvertently or mistakenly disclosed Documents containing Privileged
6 Information, the receiving party shall promptly advise the Producing Party in
7 writing of the disclosure and return the Documents and any and all copies to the
8 Producing Party.

9 The Parties agree that the return of inadvertently or mistakenly disclosed
10 Documents shall be reasonably prompt if returned within fifteen (15) business days
11 after the Producing or Receiving Party learns of the inadvertent or mistaken
12 disclosure. If the receiving party fails to return such Documents or materials, the
13 Producing Party may move the Court for an Order compelling their return.
14 Notwithstanding any such motion to the Court, all Documents containing
15 Privileged Information that are inadvertently or mistakenly disclosed shall be
16 subject to this Order until the Producing Party withdraws its request for their return
17 or until the Court determines that the Document is not appropriately claimed as
18 Privileged Information.

19 12. MISCELLANEOUS

20 12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any
21 person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

22 12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this
23 Protective Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to
24 disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in
25 this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on
26 any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective
27 Order.

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1 12.3 Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any
2 Protected Material must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5. Protected Material
3 may only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the
4 specific Protected Material at issue. If a Party's request to file Protected Material
5 under seal is denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information
6 in the public record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

7 13. FINAL DISPOSITION

8 After the final disposition of this Action, as defined in paragraph 4, within 60
9 days of a written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must
10 return all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As
11 used in this subdivision, "all Protected Material" includes all copies, abstracts,
12 compilations, summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the
13 Protected Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the
14 Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if
15 not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that
16 (1) identifies (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was
17 returned or destroyed and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any
18 copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other format reproducing or
19 capturing any of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel
20 are entitled to retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial,
21 deposition, and hearing transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition
22 and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert
23 work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival
24 copies that contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this Protective
25 Order as set forth in Section 4 (DURATION).

1 14. VIOLATIONS OF THE PROTECTIVE ORDER

2 Any violation of this Order may be punished by any and all appropriate
3 measures including, without limitation, contempt proceedings and/or monetary
4 sanctions.

6 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

8 Dated: March 16, 2016 SUSMAN GODFREY L.L.P.

10 By: /s/ Geoffrey L. Harrison
11 Geoffrey L. Harrison
12 *Attorneys for Plaintiff*
13 *Winthrop Resources Corporation*

14 Dated: March 16, 2016 LEROY SMITH
15 County Counsel, County of Ventura

17 By: /s/ Ronda J. McKaig
18 Ronda J. McKaig
19 Assistant County Counsel
20 *Attorneys for Defendant*
21 *County of Ventura*

22 FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.

23
24 Dated: March 23, 2016

25 *Suzanne H. Segal*
26 Hon. Suzanne H. Segal
27 United States Magistrate Judge
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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of
_____ [print or type full address], declare
under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated
Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Central
District of California on _____ [date] in the case of *Winthrop Resources*
Corporation v. County of Ventura, Case No. 2:15-CV-08435-JAK(SSx). I agree to
comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and
I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to
sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will
not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated
Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the
provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court
for the Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this
Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after
termination of this action. I hereby appoint _____ [print or
type full name] of _____ [print or type
full address and telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in
connection with this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this
Stipulated Protective Order.

Date: _____
City and State where sworn and signed: _____
Printed name: _____
Signature: _____